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AND

G.I. COMBAT

SEPTEMBER

No. 40

VENGEANCE ATTACK

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RUSH COUPON TODAY!

G.I. COMBAT

VENGEANCE ATTACK

THE DIVISIONS IN THE ARMED FORCES REFLECTS THE SEPARATE ROLLS PERFORMED BY THE DIFFERENT BRANCHES OF SERVICE! THERE'S AN AIR CORPS FOR AIR COMBAT! A NAVY FOR SEA BATTLE! AN ARMY FOR LAND STRUGGLE! THUS LT YALE'S SEASONED DOGFACE, TRAINED IN THE DRUMFIRES OF GROUND WARFARE, NEVER DREAMED THAT ONE DAY THEY'D BE FIGHTING FOR THEIR LIVES IN ALL THE ELEMENTS! NO SOLDIER COULD FORESEE CHINESE RED MAJOR HO LIP'S DIABOLICAL ASSAULT!



ONE DARK NIGHT, AS AN AMERICAN TRANSPORT PLANE FLIES LOW OVER THE FORMOSAN STRAITS...



IT'S PART OF A CHAIN OF RADAR INSTALLATIONS UNCLE SAM IS ESTABLISHING ON THE PESCADORES ISLANDS, TORELLI! IN CASE OF A SUDDEN RED ATTACK FORMOSA CAN BE ALERTED IN TIME!



IT'S PART OF UNCLE SAM'S DEFENSE GUARANTEE TO NATIONALIST CHINA! THE PESCADORES ISLANDS BELONG TO FORMOSA!



IS THIS ISLAND INHABITED, LIEUTENANT?



HOW LONG ARE YOU GUYS GOIN' TO STAY, LIEUTENANT?



SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE PLANE TAKES OFF...

OKAY, MEN! THE SOONER WE SET UP THIS INSTALLATION THE SOONER WE'LL GET BACK TO TAINAN!



ALL THAT NIGHT, THE MEN WORK LIKE TROJANS...

I'VE GOT TAINAN ON THE RADIO, LIEUTENANT! THEY WANT A TIME ESTIMATE!



LATE THE FOLLOWING AFTERNOON...

WE'RE NEARLY DONE, COLONEL!
WE'VE GOT ABOUT FIVE HOURS
WORK LEFT! SCHEDULE THE
PLANE PICKUP FOR DAWN!
WE'LL BE READY!



THAT NIGHT...

HAVE A CUP OF
JAVA, LIEUTENANT!
THERE'S A REAL
NIP IN THE AIR!



THANKS, TORELL!
YOU KNOW
SOMETHING? THIS
WORK WE'RE DOING
IS IMPORTANT!
RADAR CAN
FOLLOW THE REDS
AROUND LIKE AN
ELECTRONIC EYE!

WHEN WE **COMPLETE** OUR RADAR
CHAIN, THE REDS WON'T BE ABLE TO
MOVE A MUSCLE WITHOUT
OUR KNOWING ...



H-HOLY JUMP!...WE'RE
BEIN' ATTACKED!

I-IT'S COMIN' FROM THE
HEIGHTS ABOVE THE BEACH,
LIEUTENANT!



YOU'RE RIGHT, TORELL!
IT'S CHINESE REDS!

THEY MUST BE **NUTS**,
LIEUTENANT! THIS IS
NATIONALIST TERRITORY!



THEY KNOW IT, TORELL! THAT'S
WHY THEY'RE HERE...ON A
RAID OF SOME KIND!
BACK INTO THE HILLS!
I'VE GOT AN IDEA!



WHEN WE WERE LAYING OUT THE
INSTALLATION YESTERDAY, I CAME
ACROSS A HOLLOW THAT'S A
PERFECT **BLIND ALLEY**!







SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE RED PRISONERS ARE ESCORTED TO THE BEACH---



AN HOUR LATER, ON THE BEACH...

I JUST CONTACTED HEADQUARTERS IN TAINAN, LIEUTENANT! THEY'RE NOT SENDIN' A PLANE! THEY'RE SENDIN' A **BOAT!** A NATIONALIST FREIGHTER BOUND FOR FORMOSA!

WHEN WILL THE FREIGHTER GET HERE?



IN A FEW HOURS! IT'S IN OUR VICINITY! I GUESS THEY NEVER EXPECTED TO PICK UP THIS CARGO, EH, LIEUTENANT?

NEITHER DID I, TORRELL! **NOBODY** KNOWS WHEN THE REDS WILL STAGE AN ILLEGAL RAID!



THAT MORNING, WHILE THE **SHANGHAI QUEEN** STANDS OFF SHORE, THE TRANSFER OF PRISONERS IS MADE...



SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE LAST LAUNCH-LOAD OF PRISONERS HEADS TOWARD THE **SHANGHAI QUEEN**...

STOP DREAMING, LI! IF YOU'RE THINKING HOW TO **ESCAPE**, DON'T! IT'S A LONG SWIM BACK TO CHINA AND THE STRAITS ARE FULL OF SHARKS!

WELL **SEE** WHO DOES THE SWIMMING, LIEUTENANT! YOU OR I!



YOU FOUR MEN PUT THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON THE INSTALLATION! A HELICOPTER WILL LAND ON THE BEACH AT 4 P.M. TO PICK YOU UP!

OKAY, LIEUTENANT! GOOD LUCK ON YOUR HOME TRIP!



LATER, IN THE HOLD OF THE **SHANGHAI QUEEN**...

TRY TO KEEP MY CREW AWAY FROM THE REDS, LIEUTENANT! THERE'VE BEEN SEVERAL INCIDENTS SINCE WE LEFT HONG KONG!

WHAT KIND OF INCIDENTS?



MUTINY! THE UNREST DOES NOT COME FROM POOR CONDITIONS OR WAGES! IT COMES FROM THE **CARGO!** WE ARE CARRYING A FORTUNE IN MUNITIONS!

MUNITIONS?



YES! IF THE CREW WERE ABLE TO SEIZE THE SHIP AND SAIL IT TO CHINA, THEY'D SELL THE CARGO TO THE COMMUNISTS AND WIND UP RICH!

OR MORE LIKELY... DEAD! THE FOOLS! WHAT'S TO PREVENT THE REDS FROM TAKING THE CARGO WITHOUT PAYING A CENT?

AN HOUR LATER, IN A CORNER OF THE HOLD...

QUIET, MAJOR! DO NOT BETRAY US! WE SPEAK FOR THE CREW! WHEN YOU CAME ABOARD WE SAW A RARE OPPORTUNITY! WE MADE SEVERAL ATTEMPTS TO SEIZE THE SHIP! WE FAILED! OUR LEADERS ARE IN THE BRIG!

GO ON! HOW CAN WE HELP?

MOMENTS LATER... AS THE CREW MEMBER EXPLAINS...

OUR DEAL IS THIS, THEN! HELP US SEIZE THE SHIP! IN RETURN YOU KEEP YOUR FREEDOM AND THE SHIP! WE GET THE WORTH OF THE CARGO!

IT'S A BARGAIN, FRIEND! BUT WE MUST NOT WASTE TIME! WE MUST STRIKE AT ONCE! ALERT YOUR FRIENDS! IN ONE HOUR, WE JOIN FORCES!

AN HOUR LATER, ON THE UPPER DECK...

L-LIEUTENANT! COME QUICK! ALL HECCK'S BUSTED LOOSE! THE CREW JUST OVERWHELMED THE GUARD! THE REDS ARE FREE!

G-GOOD GRIEF, CAPTAIN! IT'S WHAT YOU PREDICTED!

THEY'RE SWARMING ALL OVER THE DECK! TORELLI, CONTACT FORMOSA! TELL 'EM THE REDS'VE TURNED THE SHANGHAI QUEEN INTO A BATTLEGROUND!

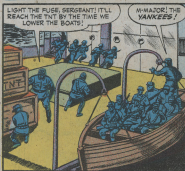
THEY'RE SENDIN' OUT HELP FROM TAINAN! BUT IT'LL BE A WHILE BEFORE THEY GET HERE!

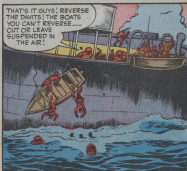
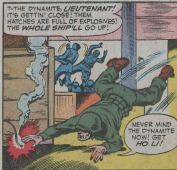
THEN OUR WORK'S OUT FOR US, TORELLI! AS LONG AS WE CONTROL THE BRIDGE WE CAN STICK IT OUT! BEAT 'EM BACK, MEN!

SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE REDS CAN'T MOVE UPWARD...

WE ARE LOST IF WE CANNOT TAKE THE BRIDGE, HO LI! THE SHIP CAN STAY ADRIFT TILL HELP COMES FROM FORMOSA!

THAT SEEMS TO BE THE YANKEES' PLAN! WE'LL FRUSTRATE IT BY JAMMING THE STEERING MECHANISM! WE'LL GROUND THE FREIGHTER ON THE NEAREST ISLAND!





A HALF HOUR LATER...



G.I. COMBAT

TWO-TON BOOBY TRAP

FIFTY TRUCKS SET OUT IN CONVOY TO SUPPLY AN EMBATTLED UNIT IN NEED OF AMMUNITION! FORTY-NINE TRUCKS REACHED THEIR DESTINATION! THE FIFTIETH WOUND UP IN THE HANDS OF THE REDS --- A SORT OF A GOING-AWAY PRESENT --- G.I. STYLE!



FALL BACK! FALL BACK TO POSITION BAKER AND AWAIT FIRE SUPPORT!

THE 7TH BATTALION, ASSAULTING DOGBOONE HILL, RAN INTO MURDEROUS MORTAR FIRE FROM A GORGE THEY CALLED SUICIDE GAP!



THIS WAS THE SECOND DAY OF SAVAGE, UNRELENTING BATTLE!

THEY'RE CLOBBERING US FROM SUICIDE GAP! WHERE'S THAT MORTAR COVER YOU WERE GOING TO THROW IN FOR US?

OUR 60 MM. STUFF WON'T REACH THAT FAR, LIEUTENANT!





EIGHT MILES SOUTH, A SCANT 1,000 YARDS OF EXPOSED ROAD WAS THE BOTTLE-NECK HOLDING UP THE BADLY NEEDED AMMO!



CORPORAL DAVE STEIN WAS DRIVER OF THE LEAD TRUCK, WITH PFC LARS LARSON AS GUARD! BEHIND THEM STRETCHED THE CONVOY...



A FEW MINUTES LATER THE UNPREDICTABLE KOREAN WEATHER HAD TOSSED UP RAIN AND THICKENING FOG!

EVERYBODY IN HIS TRUCK! ORDERS ARE TO ROLL QUICK, WHILE IT'S VISIBILITY ZERO FOR THE COMMIES!

WHAT ABOUT US? WE CAN BE SET TO ROLL IN TEN MINUTES, SARGE!

YOU'LL HAFTA CATCH UP! WE'RE TO GET THE CONVOY ROLLING BEFORE THE WEATHER SWITCHES AGAIN!

THAT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT, SERGEANTS! THEY'RE SUCH FRIENDLY HELPFUL GENTS!

FORTY-NINE LUMBERING TRUCKS AND THE REAR-GUARD JEEP ROARED BY AS THE TWO MEN STRUGGLED WITH THE HEAVY SPARE!

MAKE IT SNAPPY! AND WATCH FOR OUR MARKERS WHERE THE ROAD FORKS UP IN THE HILLS! WE WANT TO LOOP AROUND SUICIDE GAP!

YES, SIR!

THAT DOES IT, DAVE!

LEAVE THE SPARE! WE DON'T WANT TO BE CAUGHT STRAGGLING, IN CASE THE REDS HAVE PATROLS OUT!

FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER...

WE SHOULD BE CATCHING UP! KEEP WATCH FOR THAT GUIDE POST!

WHO COULD SEE IT IN THIS SOUP? I'M NOT EVEN SURE WE'RE STILL ON THE ROAD!

HEY! HSN'T THAT THE MOUNTAIN ON OUR LEFT? WE'RE SUPPOSED TO HAVE SWUNG SO IT'S ON OUR RIGHT! WE TOOK THE WRONG FORK!

THEN WE'RE HEADING RIGHT INTO RED TERRITORY! GET OUT QUICK AND FIND US A PLACE TO TURN AROUND!

ARE YOU KIDDING? YOU COULDN'T TURN A KIDDE-CAR ON THIS GOAT TRACK!

WONDER WHERE WE ARE!

WE BETTER RUN THIS CRATE OFF THE EDGE SO THE REDS CAN'T USE IT AND TRY TO GET BACK ON FOOT BEFORE THE POG-LIFTS!

HAH! I SUPPOSE THAT'S SENSIBLE, LARS--BUT I HATE LIKE BLAZES JUST TO WASTE THOSE HIGH EXPLOSIVE SHELLS!

ME, TOO, BUT WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO? TURN ON THE LIGHTS SO WE CAN SEE WHERE TO JUMP AND...**EEOW!**
A RED PATROL!

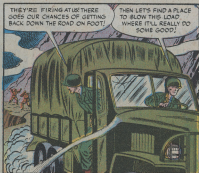
HANG ON! IF A SLUG HITS ONE OF THESE MORTAR SHELLS, WE'RE GONERS!



WOW! YOU MUSTA BEEN A TAXI DRIVER BEFORE THE WAR, DAVE!

THEY'RE FIRING AT US! THERE GOES OUR CHANCES OF GETTING BACK DOWN THE ROAD ON FOOT!

THEN LET'S FIND A PLACE TO BLOW THIS LOAD WHERE IT'LL REALLY DO SOME GOOD!



I'VE GOT AN IDEA! I'LL CLIMB BACK AND WEDGE THESE GRENADES UNDER THE SHELLS! THEN WE'LL FASTEN A WIRE TO THE PINS!

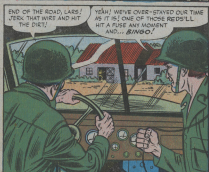
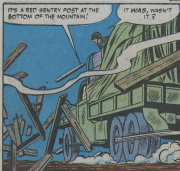
GOOD BOY! WHEN WE TAKE OFF, WE'LL JERK THE PINS AND MAKE SURE THE LOAD REALLY BLOWS! DON'T FALL OFF!

WE'LL GIVE THE REDS THIS TRUCK AS A GONG-AWAY PRESENT! THEY'LL CLIMB ON, WE'LL JERK THE PINS...AND THEY'LL GO AWAY FOR KEEPS!

THEY'RE WEDGED TIGHT! NOW ONE, QUICK JERK ON THIS WIRE AND THE PINS'LL START THE FUSES!

LARS! LOOK OUT! STAY DOWN!







G.I. COMBAT

MANEUVER BATTLEGROUND

THE SEVENTH FLEET AND THE U.S. ARMY MISSION STATIONED IN FORMOSA TO HELP KEEP IT OUT OF RED CHINESE HANDS HAD PLANNED A GREAT MANEUVER EXERCISE! THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE EXERCISE INVOLVED THE DEFENSE OF ONE ISLAND, IMA KO, AGAINST HEAVY "ENEMY" ATTACK! CAPTAIN BILL JASON'S HALF A COMPANY HAD TO OCCUPY THE ISLAND BEFORE THE EXERCISE AND THEN HOLD OFF A HUGE FORCE OF THE OPPOSITION! FOR 36 HOURS, JASON WOULD BE CUT OFF FROM ALL CONTACT WITH FORMOSA! THE STAGE WAS SET FOR EVERYTHING EXCEPT THE SHOCKING EVENTS THAT TOOK PLACE!

CAPTAIN! THEY'RE FIRING LIVE AMMUNITION! THIS ISN'T A MOCK INVASION! THIS IS THE REAL MCCOY!

THEN WHO'S INVADING US? IT CAN'T BE OUR MEN!

LATE IN MAY, 1956, A U.S. BATTLE CRUISER ANCHORS OFF THE PESCADORES ISLAND OF IMA KO, AND DISCHARGES HALF A COMPANY OF INFANTRYMEN...

GOOD LUCK, CAPTAIN JASON! YOURS WILL BE THE KEY EXPERIENCE OF THE MANEUVER!

THANK YOU, COLONEL! WE'LL DO OUR BEST! WE'LL TREAT THIS MOCK MANEUVER AS IF IT WERE THE REAL THING!

REMEMBER, CAPTAIN, YOU HAVEN'T GOT A PIECE OF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT! YOUR BLUE ARMY WILL BE OUT OF CONTACT WITH THE WORLD FOR 36 HOURS!

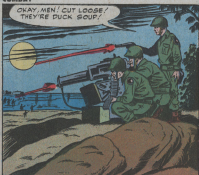
WE'LL BE READY FOR THE "ENEMY" WHEN HE COMES, COLONEL! LET 'ER RIP!





G.I. COMBAT





MOMENTS LATER, AS THE FIRST INVADERS, NOT ON THE TRAIL, PASS BY...

GRAB 'EM, GARRITY!
I'LL HOLD THE OTHERS
OFF!

YIIIIII!



HOLY
J- JUMPING...!

I-I SEE 'EM, TOO, CAPTAIN!
THEY'RE CHINESE REDS!



SHORTLY AFTER, AS CAPTAIN JASON
QUESTIONS HIS TWO PRISONERS...

W-WE OCCUPY
IMA KO TO
ESTABLISH BASE!
NEXT STOP
FORMOSA, NO
EXPECT TO FIND
YANKS
DEFENDERS
HERE!

WE'RE HERE, ALL
RIGHT, WE'RE
GOING TO STAY
HERE NO MATTER
HOW BIG YOUR
ATTACKING FORCE
IS!



BUT HOW CAN
WE FIGHT
WITHOUT
AMMUNITION,
CAPTAIN?
THEY OUT-
NUMBER US
AS IT IS!

WE'LL MEET THEIR
BRUTE FORCE
WITH CUNNING!
THEIR ARMS WITH
TRAPS, THERE'S
MORE THAN ONE
WAY TO SKIN A
CAT! COME ON,
GARRITY!



SHORTLY AFTER, IN THE HILLS...

A MERRY CHASE
AROUND THE
ISLAND IS VERY
FUN, CAPTAIN!
BUT HOW WILL
THAT HELP US
LICK THE
REDS?

FIRST WE NEED
GUNS! THEIR
GUNS! THEY
KNOW WE
CAN'T HARM A
FLY WITH OUR
MUNITIONS! MEN..

GATHER FOLIAGE..
BRANCHES, DEAD
WOOD, ANYTHING..
..AS YOU
RUN! /



MINUTES LATER, AS THE VANGUARD OF THE
REDS PLUNGES BLINDLY AHEAD INTO A PIT!



OKAY, MEN!
TAKE 'EM!





G.I. COMBAT



FOR BIG MEN ONLY!

SIZES 10 TO 16 - WIDTHS AAA TO EEE

We're America's ONLY Specialists in shoes for BIG MEN! Crepe-Sole Casuals, Cordovans, Wing-Tips, Low Cuts, Hand-Sewn Moccasins, Golf Shoes, Dress Oxfords, Work Shoes, Sox, Slippers and even Rubbers! All in Sizes 10 to 16 - Widths AAA to EEE! All priced amazingly low, because famous Kirby-Size Shoes are sold only by mail, not in stores! Every pair backed by iron-clad money-back Guarantee - and by thousands of happy King-Size buyers all over America!

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EACH ON ITS OWN BASE,
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HERE'S MY \$1.25!

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NO C.O.D.'S

TERROR of the Panhandle

DURING the late 1880's the Oklahoma Panhandle was a land apart. It was attached to no state, there was no government, no way to collect federal taxes. In the event of murder, and they usually came in threes, it was impossible to investigate the crimes because there was no coroner, no sheriff and no court in which to try the offenders. The six-shooter laid down what little law there was. Wide-open saloons and dance halls flourished along with every known type of crime.

Into this carefree state of anarchy rode young Sam Stevens, newly escaped from a Texas jail, where he had been unjustly incarcerated for cattle rustling. Sam arrived armed with the determination to go straight in a crooked country. A country he had chosen because in the Panhandle he was beyond the reach of the law.

He started by homesteading considerable acreage and behaving in a meek and mild manner when he went into town. And that took considerable doing. Sam made such a favorable impression on the local "boss," Black Bart, that he stopped him one evening as Sam staggered towards his buckboard, his arms loaded with victuals. "Sam," growled Black Bart, "I been keeping an eye on you." Sam promptly dropped the flour and as the lump dissolved in this throat, managed a quavering reply. "That s-so, Mr. Bart?" "Yup," drawled Black Bart. "An' you set such a fine example for these parts that I decided to appoint you the sheriff." Sam was flabbergasted, as were the local bystanders who overheard. It was common knowledge that this was Bart's plan to corner the local criminal activities and run things a bit more to his liking. He had offered the post to several of his cohorts and all of them, in view of the heated competition between Bart and several other would-be dictators, had turned it down as being a gilt-edged invitation to a pine box. Sam didn't give it a second thought. He carefully placed his bundles in the buckboard and stretched out his hand to Black Bart. "Sir," he said resolutely, "I accept your appointment and I thank you for your faith and confidence in me. I will administer my office in an impartial manner towards everybody." It was quite a speech for Sam and when he finally slowed down and started to blush, Black Bart assured him that there would be times when he needn't feel called upon to be too impartial.

A ramshackle building was hastily converted into a jail by Black Bart's boys and Sam moved into the office, a bright star on his chest and a new gleam in his eye. He forthwith arrested two of the carpenters on charges of drunkenness and disorderly conduct when, in celebration of the completion of the jail, they shot up Pig Red-Eye's cafe. This earned Sam considerable respect from the local law breakers since he was certainly showing no partiality when he arrested Black Bart's men. Bart himself was impressed by what he took to be strategy on Sam's part and let his boys cool off for a few days before he mentioned it to Sam.

"Don't you think it's about time to let the boys out, Sam?" queried Black Bart upon his next meeting with the sheriff. "Under the Texas law, with which I am very familiar, Mr. Bart, the term for their crime is ten days. And since we ain't part of no state, I decided to abide by Texas law until something better turns up." This was another long speech for Sam and it set Black Bart back on his heels, especially since it took place in the Dust Bowl Saloon where a couple of Bart's competitors were able to sit in on the exchange. The odds were high around town that Sam wouldn't be alive by nightfall, but they soon levelled off when it became apparent that his defiance of Black Bart had given him prestige with many a local criminal and they formed a sort of protective league for Sam which meant certain death for anyone of them who tried to kill the spunky little sheriff.

This good-sportsmanship was shortlived however, when Sam started showing up all over the area, in time to prevent a stage robbery, or to stop a shooting, and it was obvious that his information came from all sides. The boys started fighting among themselves making accusations and if things got too rough, they found themselves shouting back and forth across the jail corridor.

The final blow came in 1890 when Sam arrested Black Bart for murdering one of the opposition. And Black Bart's men organized to do away with Sam that very night. Sam had ridden out to meet the stage and when it pulled in, Sam stepped out behind a dignified gentleman whom he promptly escorted to the jail. Bart's boys immediately assumed that Sam had arrested a traveling gambler and they moved in to free the unfortunate stranger at the same time they released Bart.

Outside the jailhouse, one of the gunmen paused to put a light on a sign newly posted there. The other men trooped in, their guns drawn, as a crowd gathered on the other side of the street to witness the proceedings. They were startled to see the reader leap up in the air after carefully spelling out the sign and dash frantically into the jail shouting, "Hold it, boys! We're too late!" Inside, he found the stately gentleman being introduced by the sheriff as the representative of the State of Oklahoma, while the men were carefully replacing their six shooters. Black Bart could be heard moaning loudly in the background.

Sam explained that the Panhandle was now officially a part of Oklahoma and that the state militia was riding into town in the morning. "Law and order, at last," sighed Sam. One of the men spoke up brightly, "But if we're part of Oklahoma, that makes a difference to Black Bart, doesn't it? Under Texas law, which you been practicing, Sam, Bart's due to hang." Sam replied quietly, "Under Oklahoma law, he'll swing in the morning with the state militia to make it legal."

Sam's sentence in Texas was commuted by the governor of that state when he heard of Sam's law enforcing, and Sam Stevens, the Terror of the Panhandle, retired to his homestead, a famous man.

G.I. COMBAT

ASSAULT ON AIRSTRIP 17



THEY WERE FIVE ORDINARY G.I.'S, LEFT BEHIND THE UN ADVANCE TO PATCH A SNELL-PITTED LANDING STRIP IN THE WOODS! IT WAS A DULL JOB, FAR BEHIND THEIR OWN LINES, WITH THE WHOLE UN ARMY BETWEEN THEM AND THE REDS! THEN SUDDENLY THE REDS WERE THERE, 500 SCREAMING, BLOODTHIRSTY KOREAN GUERRILLAS WHO SAW ONLY 5 TIRED MEN BETWEEN THEM AND A MURDEROUS SURPRISE ATTACK ON THE UNPROTECTED REAR OF THE AMERICAN TROOPS!

AN ARTILLERY DUEL -- A BATTLE OF FLAME-BELCHING MONSTERS MILES APART -- SIGNALED THE OPENING OF THE NEW UN OFFENSIVE NORTH OF SUAN-PO!



SLOWLY THE DUEL BECAME ONE-SIDED AS A MOSQUITO PILOT, DARING DEATH, CRUISED OVER THE RED GUN PLACEMENTS, SPOTTING OUR SHOTS!

SCRATCH ONE MORE RED GUN! NOW TRAVERSE DUE EAST AND I'LL GIVE YOU DIRECTIONS ON WHAT LOOKS LIKE AN AMMO DUMP!



THAT DOES IT! THEY WON'T SEND ANY MORE PACKAGES FROM THAT MAILBOX! I'M HEADING BACK TO MY STRIP TO REFUEL!



BUT THE DARING PILOT RAN INTO TROUBLE WHEN HE TRIED TO SLIDE IN THROUGH THE EVENING SHADOWS TO HIS USUAL BASE!

GET UP! YOU CAN'T LAND HERE!

GADFLY 2 TO PETE 3! THE RATS PUT A SHELL-HOLE IN MY LANDING STRIP! I'M FLYING BACK TO STRIP 76 FOR EMERGENCY LANDING!

THE PILOT BARELY MADE IT TO STRIP 76 ON HIS LAST SPOONFUL OF GAS!

YOU'D BETTER GET STRIP 77 FILLED IN FAST, SIR! I'VE GOT TO BASE THERE IF I'M TO FOLLOW OUR DAMN PUSH-OFF!

I'LL GET WORD THROUGH RIGHT AWAY! WE'D BE BLIND AND HELPLESS WITHOUT YOUR SPOTTING!

BAD NEWS, SIR! THE ENGINEERS HAVE BEEN SENT OVER TO LEFT FLANK TO THROW A PORTABLE BRIDGE OVER THE HUANSAN RIVER!

BLAST IT, WE DON'T NEED ENGINEERS! TELL THEM TO SEND SOME G.I.'S WITH SHOVELS TO FILL THAT HOLE! MAKE IT SNAPPY!

So THROUGH THE CHAIN OF COMMAND, SERGEANT EDWARDS OF FIRST PLATOON ENDED WITH THE DIRTY DETAIL -- AS USUAL!

COME ON, YOU DOS-FACES! WE JUST GOT A CALL FOR SPECIALISTS ON A GOLD-BRICK DETAIL AND YOU'RE IT!

OOOOH! LAST TIME I HEARD THAT GAS, I WOUND UP ON A GARBAGE TRUCK!

QUIT BEEFING, MAC! WE'RE GOING BACK BEHIND THE WAR TO FILL UP A SHELL-HOLE ON AIRSTRIP 77! CLIMB ABOARD!

HEY, YOU MEAN NO-BODY'S GONNA SHOOT AT US? THE OUTFIT STARTS A DRIVE AND WE SIT IT OUT? HOW SOFT CAN ARMY LIFE GET?

AN HOUR LATER THEY SPLASHED ACROSS THE SHALLOW TRICKLE OF FUNAN CREEK ONTO AIRSTRIP 77.

HERE WE ARE! GRAB THOSE SHOVELS AND GET READY TO DIG!

YEAH! I KNEW THERE WAS A CATCH IN IT SOMEWHERE! TONIGHT WHEN THE OUTFIT SNORES, WE GOTTA SHOVEL MUD!

SERGEANT EDWARDS AND COMPANY REPORTING FOR AIRSTRIP REPAIRS, SIR!

FINE! WE'RE TO TAKE YOUR TRUCK AND RUSH BACK FOR SPARE PARTS! TRY TO HAVE THE FIELD OPERATIVE BY THE TIME WE GET BACK TOMORROW!

SO
THE DULL,
WEARY
JOB
BEGAN!
EVERYBODY
BEEFED
BUT
EACH
MAN
KNEW
THE
VITAL
IMPORTANCE
OF
KEEPING
THE
MOSQUITO
PLANE
FLYING!

HEY, SARGE, IS
IT SAFE TO KEEP
THE LANDING
LIGHTS ON
LIKE THIS?

SURE, JUDD! WE'RE MILES
BEHIND THE LINES!
NOBODY'D BOTHER
US BUT A RED
BOMBER AND WE
CAN HEAR HIM
IN TIME TO
BLACK
OUT!



DAWN FOUND THE EXHAUSTED MEN
STILL LABORING!

I DIDN'T KNOW HOW
MUCH I HATED THE
COMMIES' UNTIL
THEY DID THIS!
OOOON, MY
ACHING BACK!

DON'T WORRY, TOM!
WHEN THIS JOB IS
FINISHED, WE'LL PAY 'EM
BACK PLENTY! TAKE TEN
AND WE'LL RUSTLE
SOME CHOW!



THEN THE ATTACK CAME WITHOUT ANY WARNING —



WHA...? GRAB YOUR
GUNS! GET INTO
THOSE TREES!

BLAM
BLAM

MUST BE RED GUERRILLAS!
KEEP THEM BUSY
WHILE I GIVE
SAMUEL'S
FIRST AID!

AND SOMEBODY SAID
THIS WAS A GOLD-BRICK
MISSION! THAT'S THE
ARMY FOR YUH!



SAH'LL
BE OKAY!
CAN YOU
MAKE
OUT HOW
MANY
ARE
OVER
THERE?

FOUR, JUDGING FROM
THE SHOTS, SARGE!
I THINK I GOT ONE
WHEN HE STUCK HIS
RIFLE OUT A
MINUTE AGO!
I...HOLD IT!

MAKE IT THREE,
NOW!



WE'VE STILL GOT A
RUSH JOB TO
FINISH! WE'LL
SWING AROUND
AND TRY TO
FLANK THOSE
BABIES FROM
THE SOUTH!

THE NERVE OF
'EM PULLING AN
ATTACK BEHIND
OUR LINES! HOW
CRAZY CAN THOSE
BUZZARDS GET?



SOMETHING'S SCREWY!
WHY DON'T THEY CHARGE
OR PULL OUT? THEY
ACT LIKE THEY'RE
WAITING FOR SOME...

YII-II-I!
THAT'S WHAT
THEY'RE WAITING
FOR!

A WHOLE RED
GUERRILLA COLUMN!
THERE MUST BE
500 OF THEM!

RUN FOR IT! WE'VE GOT TO MAKE
THE AIRSTRIP OPERATIONS
SHANTY AND SEE IF THEY'VE
GOT ANY REASONS!



THE REDS WERE STILL A GOOD HALF MILE AWAY WHEN
THE MEN BURST INTO THE AIRSTRIP SHANTY!

EEOW! WE HIT THE
JACKPOT, GANG!
A MACHINE GUN, A
BAR AND A
GRENADE
GUN!

HIT FOR THE NOODS AGAIN! WE
CAN HOLE UP BEHIND THE TREES
AND DO SOME DAMAGE WHEN
THEY REACH THE CREEK!



HEY, ARE WE NUTS? FIVE
OF US CAN'T HOLD OFF
500! WE'D BETTER
TRY TO GET OUT OF
HERE BEFORE THEY
STEAMROLLER US!

IF WE DO, THEY'LL SWEEP
ON AND HIT OUR OWN
OUTFIT FROM THE REAR!
OUR JOB IS TO DELAY
THE REDS UNTIL HELP
CAN GET HERE!



OKEY-DOKE! THIS
GUGHTA DELAY A
FEW OF THOSE
BABIES --
PERMANENTLY!

MAKE
EVERY
SHOT
COUNT!



KEEP THEM BUSY
WHILE I SLP
BACK AND TRY
TO GET THAT
RADIO IN THE
SHACK OPER-
ATING! IT'S
OUR ONLY
HOPE OF
GETTING
HELP!

MAKE IT SNAPPY!
WHEN THAT AD-
VANCE PATROL
TELLS 'EM THERE
ONLY FIVE OF
US, THEY'LL
REALLY
POUR IT ON!



SERGEANT EDWARDS WAS ALMOST TO HIS GOAL WHEN A RED MORTAR OPENED UP WITH DEADLY EFFECTIVENESS!

THAT REALLY TEARS IT! WE'RE GONERS!

THE GASOLINE DUMP FOR THE OBSERVATION PLANE! IF A SHELL HITS THAT -- HEY! I'VE GOT AN IDEA!

HOLCOMB -- CARTER! YOU TWO COME WITH ME! DAVIS, YOU KEEP THAT MACHINE GUN GOING! SAMUELS, WORK THE GRENADE GUN WITH YOUR GOOD ARM!

WHAT'S UP, SARGE? WITH THE RADIO GONE, WE'RE FINISHED!

WE'VE GOT ONE CHANCE IN A MILLION! START ROLLING THOSE GASOLINE DRUMS DOWN TO THE CREEK! HURRY IT!

WHEN! WHAT DO WE DO NEXT? THROW THESE CANS AT THE COMMIES!

WE GO BACK FOR THREE MORE -- AND DON'T WASTE YOUR BREATH ON GABBING! I'LL EXPLAIN LATER!

NOW GET THOSE SCREW CAPS LOOSENED SO YOU CAN START DUMPING GAS IN THE CREEK WHEN I GIVE THE WORD!

ONE OF US IS NUTS AND IT CAN'T BE ME -- I'M JUST SCARED!

YOU WON'T BE SCARED LONG! YOU'LL BE DEAD! HERE THEY COME!

START DUMPING GAS! POUR IT FAST!

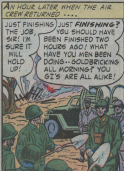


IN AN INSTANT THE VOLATILE GAS FLOATING ON THE TINY STREAM TURNED INTO A MASS OF ROARING FLAME!



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